

THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Christian Education Sunday

August 27, 2017

Worship Focus
Teach the Word!



CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION

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THE ORDER OF SERVICE

Service of the Word

Christian Worship, p. 38

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OPENING HYMN

432 – I Am Jesus' Little Lamb



1 I am Je - sus' lit - tle lamb; Ev - er glad at heart I
2 Day by day, at home, a - way, Je - sus is my staff and
3 Who so hap - py as I am, E - ven now the shep - herd's



am, For my shep - herd gent - ly guides me, Knows my
stay. When I hun - ger, Je - sus feeds me, In - to
lamb? And when my short life is end - ed, By his



needs and well pro - vides me, Loves me ev - 'ry
pleas - ant pas - tures leads me; When I thirst, he
an - gel hosts at - tend - ed, He shall fold me



day the same, E - ven calls me by my name,
bids me go Where the qui - et wa - ters flow,
to his breast, There with - in his arms to rest.

Text: Henrietta L. von Hayn, 1724–82; tr. composite.

Tune: WIE ICH JESU SCHÄFLEIN BIN (77 88 77) *Choralbuch . . . Brüder-Gemeinen*, Leipzig, 1784.

INVOCATION

Minister The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation And also with you.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

M We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C **Amen.**

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Refrain

**Father welcomes all his children To his family through his Son.
Father giving his salvation; Life forever has been won.**

**1. Little children come to me, For my kingdom is of these.
Love and new life have I to give, Pardon for your sin.**

Refrain

**2. In the water, in the Word, In his promise, be assured;
All who believe and are baptized Have been born again.**

Refrain

**3. Let us daily die to sin; Let us daily rise with him,
Walk in the love of Christ our Lord, Live in the peace of God.**

Refrain

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have committed to your Church the task of making disciples of all nations. Enlighten with your wisdom those who teach and those who learn, that, rejoicing in the knowledge of your truth, they may worship and serve you from generation to generation; through Jesus Christ our Lord.



THE WORD

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 40:9-11

God gathers the lambs in his arms.

⁹ **ISAIAH 40:9** You who bring good tidings to Zion,
go up on a high mountain.
You who bring good tidings to Jerusalem,
lift up your voice with a shout,
lift it up, do not be afraid;
say to the towns of Judah,
“Here is your God!”

¹⁰ See, the Sovereign LORD comes with power,
and his arm rules for him.
See, his reward is with him,
and his recompense accompanies him.

¹¹ He tends his flock like a shepherd:
He gathers the lambs in his arms
and carries them close to his heart;
he gently leads those that have young.

ANTHEM

Contemporary Ensemble

Shine, Jesus, Shine

*Text, Tune, Setting: Graham Kendrick © 1987 Make Way Music (administered by Integrity's Hosanna! Music)
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*Lord, the light of your love is shining,
In the midst of the darkness shining.
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us;
Set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me, Shine on me.*

Refrain

*Shine, Jesus Shine!
Fill this land with the Father's Glory.
Blaze, Spirit, blaze!
Set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow!
Flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth your Word,
Lord, And let there be light!*

*Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
From the shadows into your radiance.
By the blood I may enter your brightness;
Search me, try me, consumer all my darkness.
Shine on me, Shine on me.*

Refrain

*As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
So our faces display your likeness.
Ever changing from glory to glory,
Mirrored here, may our lives tells your story.
Shine on me, Shine on me.*

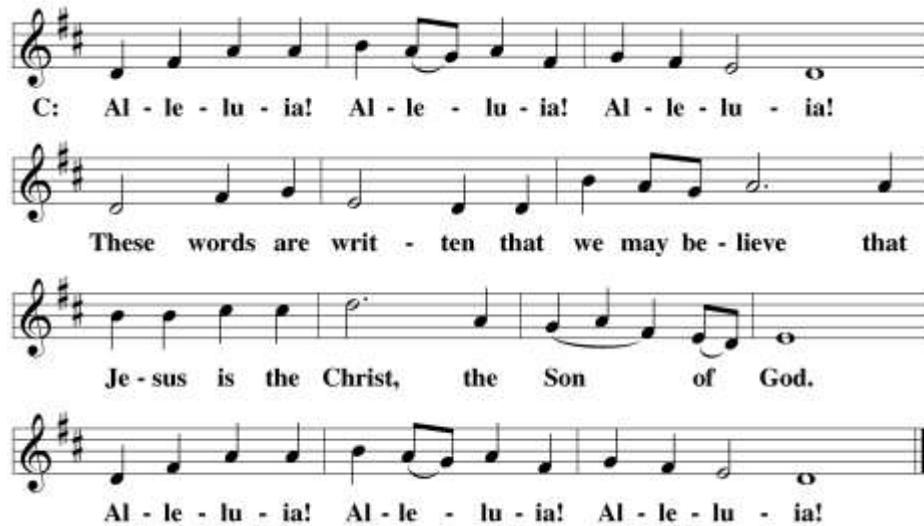
Refrain

SECOND LESSON 2 Timothy 3:14-17

Timothy heard God's message even in infancy.

¹ TIMOTHY 3:14 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, ¹⁵ and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

VERSE OF THE DAY



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

GOSPEL Matthew 18:1-14

Welcome little children and we welcome Christ!

MATTHEW 18:1 At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”

² He called a little child and had him stand among them. ³ And he said: “I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

⁵ “And whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me. ⁶ But if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a large millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea.

⁷ “Woe to the world because of the things that cause people to sin! Such things must come, but woe to the man through whom they come! ⁸ If your hand or your foot causes you to sin cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life maimed or crippled than to have two hands or two feet and be thrown into eternal fire. ⁹ And if your eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into the fire of hell.

¹⁰ “See that you do not look down on one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven.

¹² “What do you think? If a man owns a hundred sheep, and one of them wanders away, will he not leave the ninety-nine on the hills and go to look for the one that wandered off? ¹³ And if he finds it, I tell you the truth, he is happier about that one sheep than about the ninety-nine that did not wander off. ¹⁴ In the same way your Father in heaven is not willing that any of these little ones should be lost.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HYMN OF THE DAY

508 – Gracious Savior, Gentle Shepherd



1 Gra - cious Sav - ior, gen - tle Shep - herd, Chil - dren all are
2 Ten - der Shep - herd, nev - er leave them, Nev - er let them
3 By your ho - ly Word in - struct them; Fill their minds with
4 Taught to love the ho - ly prais - es Which on earth your



dear to you; May your lov - ing arms en - fold them
go a - stray; By your warn - ing love di - rect - ed,
heav'n - ly light. By your pow'r - ful grace con - vince them
chil - dren sing, With their lips and hearts, sin - cere - ly,



In your care their whole life through. Gent - ly tend and
May they walk the nar - row way. Thus di - rect them,
Al - ways to ap - prove what's right. Let them feel your
Glad thank - of - f'rings may they bring, Then with all the



safe - ly keep them In your mer - cy strong and true.
thus de - fend them Lest they fall an eas - y prey.
yoke is eas - y; Let them find your bur - den light.
saints in glo - ry Join to praise their Lord and King.

Text: Jane E. Leeson, 1809-81, abr., adapt., alt.

Tune: SIEH, HIER BIN ICH, EHRENKÖNIG (87 87 87) *Geistreiches Gesang-Buch*, Darmstadt, 1698.

SERMON

Genesis 4:26b-5:32

Carry On The Heritage of Christian Education

1. Its essence
2. Its need
3. Its blessings

CONFESSIOIN OF FAITH – THE APOSTLES’ CREED

**C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

FRIENDSHIP REGISTER, OFFERINGS, and MUSICAL OFFERTORY

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M Let us pray to the God of all knowledge and wisdom that the Church may be renewed and strengthened for her mission.

Silent prayer.

M O Lord, you have revealed your good and gracious will to your people on earth. Forgive us for pursuing that knowledge that serves only our selfish desires and for using what we have learned to exploit and hurt others. Cleanse our guilty hearts of the apathy we feel for searching out the deeper truths of your Word.

C **Holy Spirit, hear our prayer that we may put self aside and rejoice in the truth that builds up.**

M Heavenly Father, send the Spirit of Jesus into our hearts so that like the Bereans of old we eagerly learn of you. As the deer pants for streams of water, may we be instilled with a longing to explore the mysteries of your grace.

C **Holy Spirit, increase in us the knowledge of your truth.**

M As you sent your Son among us as the Word made flesh, so bless the efforts of schools, colleges, and seminaries to train those who proclaim your presence among us in Word and sacrament.

C **Holy Spirit, instill in us a desire to teach others the wisdom of your ways.**

M God of light, give to the Church renewed wisdom and fresh understanding that the message of your salvation may shine ever brighter in this dark age.

C **Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love so that others may see our good deeds and praise our Father in heaven.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M Holy Spirit, renew the face of the earth so that at the name of Jesus every knee may bow.

C **May your peace, which transcends all understanding, guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.**

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THE LORD'S PRAYER

C **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

SERMON HYMN

293 – God’s Word Is Our Great Heritage



God's Word is our great her - i - tage And shall be ours for -
ev - er; To spread its light from age to age Shall be our
chief en - deav - or. Through life it guides our way; In death it
is our stay. Lord, grant, while worlds en - dure, We keep its
teach - ings pure Through - out all gen - er - a - tions.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, 1861–1925.
Tune: REUTER (87 87 66 66 7) Friedrich O. Reuter, 1863–1924.

PRAYER

M Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - - men.

BLESSING

M Brothers and sisters, go in peace.
Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



CLOSING SONG

Jesus, Tender Shepherd, Hear Me

*Words by Mary Lundy Duncan, additional lyric by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty music by Keith Getty and Kristyn Getty
© 2015 Getty music publishing (BMI) Covered under CCLI # 3081415*

*Jesus, tender Shepherd, hear me, Bless Thy little lamb tonight;
Through the darkness be Thou near me, Watch my sleep till morning light.*

Refrain:

*When I'm troubled and afraid I will trust in Thee and pray;
Jesus, tender Shepherd, hear me; Bless Thy little lamb tonight,
Bless Thy little lamb tonight.*

*All this day Thy hand has led, And I thank Thee for Thy care;
Thou hast clothed me, warmed, and fed me, Listen to my evening prayer.*

Refrain

*Let my sins be all forgiven; Bless the friends I love so well;
Take me, when I die, to Heaven, Happy there with Thee to dwell.*

Refrain

*After worship, please feel free to stay and greet your neighbors.
Join us immediately after worship for our Rally Day celebration.*